

Docket No.: P99047US2A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Jamie J. McNutt, Nicole L. Squire, and William J. O'Briskie

Serial No.: 10/068,411 Filed: February 6, 2002

For: LARGE SIZED CARBON BLACK PARTICLES TO REDUCE NEEDED

MIXING ENERGY OF HIGH HARDNESS, STIFF TIRE **COMPOSITIONS**

Art Unit:

1714

Examiner:

Wyrozebski-Lee

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/068,411, and is filed in response to the Office Action mailed April 5, 2004, in which all claims were finally rejected. Applicants request a 3-month extension to the period for response. Please charge deposit account number 06-0925 in the amounts of \$980.00 to cover the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a), and \$770.00 to cover the fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(c). Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to the same.

Please amend the application as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Signed